

In the Claims

Claims 22-26, 31-33, and 45 are pending. Claims 26 and 45 are rejected. Claims 22-25, 31 and 32 are allowed. Claim 33 is objected to. Claims 33 and 45 are amended herein. Claim 26 is canceled herein. Please note that all claims currently pending and under consideration in the referenced application are shown below. Please enter these claims as amended. This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1-21. (Cancelled)

22. (Previously Presented) A binder comprising:

- a first cover;

- a second cover pivotally coupled to said first cover, both of said covers being generally flat and planar, said first cover including an opening and having a first side and a second side; and

- a pocket coupled to said first cover and generally received in said opening, said pocket including a first panel and a second panel defining a pocket cavity therebetween;

- a first releasable fastening mechanism positioned on or between said first panel and said first cover to releasably join said first panel and said first cover; and

- a second releasable fastening mechanism positioned on or between said second panel and said first cover to releasably join said second panel and said first cover.

23. (Original) The binder of claim 22 wherein said pocket can be accessed from both said first and second sides of said first cover.

24. (Original) The binder of claim 23 wherein said pocket includes a pocket cavity which can be accessed from both said first and second sides of said first cover.

25. (Original) The binder of claim 24 wherein said first cover defines a plane, and

wherein said first side is located on one side of said plane and said second side is located on an opposite side of said plane, and wherein said pocket cavity can be accessed from said first side without intersecting said plane, and wherein said pocket cavity can be accessed from said second side without intersecting said plane.

26. (Cancelled).

27-30. (Cancelled)

31. (Previously Presented) The binder of claim 22 wherein said first and second panels are each independently pivotally coupled to said first cover.

32. (Previously Presented) The binder of claim 22 wherein said first panel is directly releasably attachable to said first side of said first cover and said second panel is directly releasably attachable to said second side of said first cover.

33. (Currently Amended) A method for manipulating a binder comprising the steps of: providing a binder having a first generally planar component, a second generally planar component pivotally coupled to said first planar component, both of said planar components being generally flat and planar and having a first and second opposite sides thereof, and a pocket coupled to said first planar component, said pocket including a front panel and a rear panel defining a pocket cavity therebetween, wherein each panel is independently pivotable relative to the other; accessing said pocket from said first side of said first planar component; and accessing said pocket from said second side of said first planar component, wherein said first planar component defines a plane, and wherein said first side of said first planar component is located on one side of said plane and said second side of said first planar component is located on an opposite side of said plane, and wherein said first accessing step includes accessing said pocket from said first side without intersecting said plane, and wherein said second accessing step includes accessing said pocket from said second side without intersecting said plane;

~~The method of claim 26~~ wherein said first planar component includes an opening and said pocket is positioned in said opening, and wherein said first side of said first cover is an inner side and said second side of said first cover is an outer side, and wherein said rear panel is generally positioned on said inner surface of said first planar component, and said front panel is positioned on said outer side of said first planar component, and wherein said rear panel includes a protruding portion that protrudes outwardly beyond said opening to prevent said rear panel from being pulled through said opening.

34-44. (Cancelled)

45. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~26~~33 wherein the binder of said providing step is independently pivotable relative to the other such that one panel can be pivoted without the other panel pivoting.